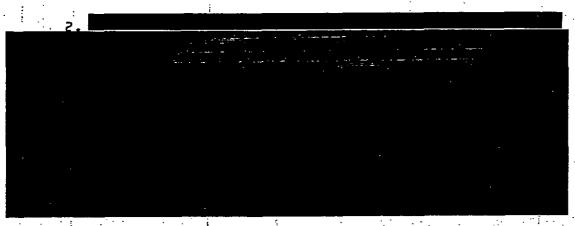
33/21/ DISSEY PER OPA #2 SETERET STAFF PAGE 001 MAR BO TOT: 27 TO: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF LATIN AMERICAN PRIEF 26 MARCH 1980. FROM: NEAC/OFFICE OF CURRENT OPERATIONS. 2. CHILE: MODERATES UNDERCUT. 1. 4746-071-3 SERPET Declassified and Approved for Release July 2000

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3. CHILE: THE DISMISSAL OF FOREIGN MINISTER CUBILLOS WILL SERIOUSLY UNDERCUT CHILEAN MODERATES WHO HAD BEEN URGING EXPANSION OF INTERNATIONAL TIES.

CUBILLOS' DUSTER FOLLOWS THE CANCELLATION LAST WEEK OF PRESIDENT PINOCHET'S ASIAN TRIP AFTER MANILA WITHDREW ITS INVITATION WHILE HE WAS EN ROUTE TO THE PHILIPPINES.

1 APPINOCHET'S SUBSEQUENT BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH MANILA SUGGESTS THAT SANTIAGO WILL ABANDON--AT LEAST TEMPORARILY-ITS EFFORTS TO RUILD STRONG BONDS WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS, A MAJOR FOCUS OF CHILEAN FOREIGN POLICY DURING THE PAST YEAR. PRAGMATISTS IN THE PINOCHET REGIME, DISCOURAGED BY THE WEST'S FAILURE TO ACKNOWLEDGE WHAT THEY VIEW AS SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS, MAVE PUSHED FOR CLOSER RELATIONS WITH EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC COUNTRIES AS A MEANS OF COUNTERING DIPLOMATIC ISOLATION.//

THE EMOTIONAL RECEPTION BY CHILEANS ON HIS RETURN, MAY ENCOURAGE PINOCHET TO IGNORE OR DISMISS THOSE IN THE REGIME WHO DISAGREE WITH HIS POLICIES. PINOCHET INDICATED THAT RESPONSIBLE DOMESTIC PARTIES WOULD BE CALLED TO ACCOUNT FOR THE FIASCO.

POSITION WAS WEAKENED BY THE US DECISION LAST WEEK TO

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EXCLUDE CHILF FROM A NAVAL EXERCISE BECAUSE OF ITS FAILURE TO EXTRADITE OR TRY THREE OFFICIALS FOR THE MURDER OF ORLANDO LETELIER. WHEN INITIAL US SANCTIONS AGAINST CHILE IN CONNECTION WITH THE LETELIFR CASE WERE ANNOUNCED LAST NOVEMBER, MODERATES HAD ADVOCATED A MEASURED RESPONSE AS THE BEST MEANS OF SOFTENING THE SANCTIONS.

4.

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RVW 26 MAR 10 DRV MULTIPLE

END OF MESSAGE

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